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## **Sen. Jason Allen supports order allowing UP residents to feed deer**

**Lansing** – State Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City, announced today that the Michigan Natural Resources Commission has approved an interim order allowing residents in certain areas of the Upper Peninsula to obtain permits for supplemental deer feeding.

“Heavy snows have hampered the deer from finding food, and supplemental feeding will help them survive,” Allen said.

Allen spoke with Natural Resources Commission Chair Keith Charters personally in support of allowing residents to feed deer.

Conditions of the interim order include:

- Applicants must have permission from the land owner or administrator;
- Feed cannot be placed until a permit is obtained;
- Feed is limited to grain or pelletized food (not containing animal protein) and must be scattered on the ground;
- Feed must be placed at least one mile from livestock, certain agricultural crops and at least one-quarter mile from paved public roads;
- Those obtaining permits are required to provide a summary of their feeding activities to the Department of Natural Resources by May 30.

“I would like to thank the commission for their commitment to the Upper Peninsula herd,” Allen said. “The deer herd is vital to tourism and the economy of the Upper Peninsula.”

Permits will be issued to residents in portions of Chippewa and Marquette counties, as well as in Ontonagon, Houghton, Keweenaw, Baraga, Alger and Luce counties.

Residents obtaining permits may feed deer through May 15. The interim will be in effect for a year and will be reviewed by the commission again next year.

Applications for permits are available at DNR field offices in Sault Ste. Marie, Shingleton, Gwinn and Crystal Falls, and DNR Operation Service Centers in Baraga, Marquette and Newberry.

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